AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1(Currently Amended). A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length that specifically hybridizes ~~targeted~~ to nucleobases 31 through 110, nucleobases 121 through 150, nucleobases 1600 through 1620, or nucleobases 1631 through 1769 ~~a 5'-untranslated region, a start codon region, nucleobases 161 through 170, nucleobases 201 through 220, nucleobases 311 through 328, nucleobases 351 through 370, nucleobases 446 through 465, nucleobases 641 through 660, nucleobases 711 through 730, nucleobases 771 through 790, nucleobases 799 through 818, nucleobases 1041 through 1060, nucleobases 1061 through 1080, nucleobases 1411 through 1430, or nucleobases 1571 through 1590 of a coding region, a stop codon region or a 3' untranslated region~~ of a nucleic acid molecule encoding human cholesteryl ester transfer protein (SEQ ID NO: 3), wherein said compound ~~specifically hybridizes with one of said regions and~~ inhibits the expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein.

2(Original). The compound of claim 1 which is an antisense oligonucleotide.

3(Cancelled)

4(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5(Original). The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

6(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

7(Original). The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

8(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9(Original). The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

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10(Original). The compound of claim 2 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

11(Cancelled).

12(Original). A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13(Original). The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14(Original). The composition of claim 12 wherein the compound is an antisense oligonucleotide.

15(Previously Amended). A method of inhibiting the expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein is inhibited.

Claims 16-20 (Cancelled).